

and Paddington; while they showed the largest excess in St. George-in-the-East, Clerkenwell, Newington, Strand, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and St. James Westminster.

A MEMBER asks: Is it usual for the medical officer of a workhouse to attend the master and matron and other officers free of charge? Has this custom become so general as to entitle the officials to assume an indirect claim for gratuitous attendance?

* * We believe it is usual for the medical officer of a workhouse to attend the officials without charge, but even if this custom is general he is no doubt quite at liberty to make a charge for medical attendance on any or all of the officials if he thinks fit to do so.

MEDICO-PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday, August 22nd.

London Government (Scotland) Bill.—The Commons' amendments to the Lords' amendments were agreed to.

Tuesday, August 27th.

Public Health (Cholera Prevention) Bill.—Lord BALFOUR, in moving the second reading of this Bill, explained that its object was to remove doubts in regard to regulations the Local Government Board were empowered to make under the Public Health Act, which had been in force for sixteen or seventeen years. It was of great importance that these doubts should be removed.—The Bill was read a second time.

Poor Law Bill.—The Commons' amendments to the Lords' amendments were considered and agreed to.

Wednesday, August 28th.

Infectious Disease Notification Bill.—Lord BALFOUR, in moving the second reading of this Bill, said that there were now fifty-two urban and rural authorities in whose districts the system proposed under the Bill was already enforced, and no fewer than three-and-a-half millions of people were controlled by those authorities; therefore the Bill could not be said in any way to introduce a novel principle. A large number of public bodies had petitioned in favour of the provisions of the Bill, and in 1887 a circular was sent to the sanitary authorities and medical officers in all the districts now under the system to which the Bill would give effect. The response to this circular was absolutely unanimous in favour of the Bill. One of the chief advantages of the notification of infectious disease was that it led to a more rapid discovery of the cause. In one town thirty cases of typhoid were notified at the same time, and the cause of the epidemic was at once traced to the milk-supply.—Lord HERSCHELL said that he had read a statement in the papers to the effect that the statistics showed that the mortality from infectious diseases was greater where the notification system was now in operation than in districts where it was not enforced. He should like to ask the noble lord if this statement were the fact.—Lord BALFOUR said that he had not seen the statement in question. Where the provisions of the Bill were now in force, they had been introduced in private Acts of Parliament, which of course could only be obtained at considerable expense by large centres of population. Therefore it might be said that the population of the districts in which the system was enforced was denser than the population of the districts where the system was not in force. There would accordingly be a much greater antecedent probability of a high mortality in those districts.—The Bill was read a second time, and the Committee stage being dispensed with, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday, August 22nd.

The Royal Commission on the Blind.—Mr. W. H. SMITH, in reply to Mr. WOODALL, said that he had not had time to peruse the important report of the Royal Commission on the Blind, the Deaf, and Dumb of the United Kingdom, but he might say generally that the recommendations of the Commissioners would be most carefully considered by the Government during the recess.

Typhoid in the West End of London.—Mr. ISAACSON asked the President of the Local Government Board whether, in view of the supposed outbreak of typhoid fever in the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, he would call on the sanitary inspectors of the parish to report on those houses which still had open cesspools, and advise as to their immediate removal.—Mr. RITCHIE replied that he had no authority to give directions to the sanitary inspectors of the parish in question. They were in no way subject to the jurisdiction of the Local Government Board. He would, however, communicate with the vestry of the parish with reference to the question.

Friday, August 23rd.

Public Health (Cholera Prevention) Bill.—This Bill was read a second time.

Movable Dwellings Bill.—This Bill passed through Committee.

Derry Gool and its Water Supply.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL FOR IRELAND, in reply to Mr. O'HANLON, said no complaints had reached the Government in the matter of the Londonderry city water supply. The prison was supplied with the same water as the city. It appeared that every attention was given to prevent in any way contamination of the water, and samples of it were regularly analysed by the city analyst, who reported the results to the corporation quarterly. In his last report of analysis made he stated that the water in the basins showed a very satisfactory degree of purity, and the quality in the various reservoirs compared very favourably with that of the public supply in many of the large towns. The Prisons Board reported that all water used for culinary and drinking purposes in the prison was thoroughly filtered before use.

Saturday, August 24th.

Infectious Diseases Notification Bill.—The House went into Committee on this Bill, Sir J. GORST in the chair.—Mr. H. STEWART called attention to the fact that there were many amendments on the paper, and no medical men present. The Bill had not been expected to come on, and he begged to report progress.—Mr. RITCHIE said the Bill had met with universal approval on the second reading, and it was extremely desirable it should be passed.—Mr. SEXTON asked if Her Majesty's Government would support a Bill for Ireland next session, based on the optional principle.—Mr. A. BALFOUR said it should have his consideration.

—The Committee divided, and the motion to report progress was lost. Clause 1 was agreed to.—Mr. M. HEALY moved an amendment to omit Subsection A, on the ground that it drew an invidious distinction between London and the rest of England. In London the Bill was to be compulsory after two months of the passing of the Act, whereas in the rest of the country it was only to come into operation on its adoption by an urban or rural sanitary district.—Mr. RITCHIE said the Government proposed to accept the principle of the amendment later on. There had been a unanimous expression of opinion that the Bill ought not to be permissive in any part of the country. They did not, however, wish to make the Bill compulsory against the wish of the House. The Bill, he explained, proposed to make the Act compulsory in London, and optional throughout the country. The amendment would strike out the compulsion with reference to London.—Mr. SEXTON said the Irish were in favour of an optional Bill.—After some further discussion, Mr. RITCHIE said the Government were so impressed with the importance of this measure becoming law, that if the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Sexton) was prepared to say, on behalf of hon. members near him, that they would consent to the passing of the Bill as originally introduced, then the Government were prepared to make terms with them on that basis.—Mr. SEXTON was willing to accept that offer, and on the condition that the initiative remained optional with the local authorities, he was prepared to withdraw all opposition.—Mr. B. ROBERTS did not see how the Government could enter into such an arrangement when they had already told many hon. members that they would agree to the Bill being made compulsory.—The amendment was by leave withdrawn, and Clause 2 agreed to. On Clause 3, two amendments were moved by Mr. H. STEWART, and after discussion withdrawn.—Mr. KELLY moved an amendment providing that notices should be sent to masters and mistresses of elementary schools, so that children from infected homes might be prevented from attending school.—Mr. RITCHIE said these details were provided for otherwise than by the Bill, and the amendment was negatived.—Mr. H. STEWART moved an amendment to omit part of the clause, and to provide that a certificate should be given to the head of the family or other person primarily liable to give notice. He contended that the dual system was not more efficient than a single notice system.—Mr. RITCHIE said that such a conclusion could not be maintained in the absence of knowledge as to comparative conditions.—The amendment was withdrawn, and the clause agreed to.—On Clause 10, Mr. RITCHIE moved to add the words, "The managers shall send weekly to the London County Council such return of the infectious diseases of which they receive certificates in pursuance of this Act, as the London County Council from time to time require." The amendment was agreed to.—On Clause 14, Mr. G. BRUCE moved an amendment extending the meaning of the words "occupier of the building" to include a person having control of it as agent, and any person in charge of a shop.—The amendment was agreed to.—On the motion of Mr. RITCHIE, the following new clauses were agreed to and added to the Bill: "A payment made to any medical practitioner in pursuance of this Act shall not disqualify that practitioner for serving as member of the council of any county or borough, or as member of a sanitary authority, or as guardian of a union, or in any municipal or parochial office. Where a medical practitioner attending on a patient is himself the medical officer of health of the district he shall be entitled to the fee to which he would be entitled if he were not such medical officer." "Where this Act is put in force in any district in which there is a local Act for the like purpose as this Act, the enactments of such local Act, so far as they relate to that purpose, shall cease to be in operation." "In the application of this Act to Scotland, the expression 'Local Government Board' shall mean Board of Supervision; the expression 'Summary Jurisdiction Acts' shall mean the Summary Jurisdiction (Scotland) Acts, 1864 and 1881, and any Act amending the same; the expression 'local authority' shall mean the local authority as defined by the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867, and any Act amending the same; the expression 'England,' in Section 5, shall mean Scotland; the powers contained in this Act shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any of the said Act; the expression 'clerk of the local authority' includes in the case of an urban sanitary authority, town clerk and secretary. 2. References to a place of abode in England shall be construed to refer to a place of abode in Ireland. 3. Offences under this Act may be prosecuted, and fines under this Act may be recovered, in manner directed by the Summary Jurisdiction Acts, before a court of summary jurisdiction constituted in the manner mentioned in the 249th Section of the Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878." The Bill as amended passed through Committee, and the House resumed.

The Professors of the Queen's Colleges.—Mr. PINKERTON asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether, in view of the serious financial loss inflicted upon certain professors of the Queen's Colleges by the passing of the Royal University (Ireland) Act, he was prepared to make the same concession to them as was given to medical officers and servants in the Dublin Hospital Board Bill, which he had recently introduced.—Mr. JACKSON replied that he did not recognise any similarity in the circumstances of the two cases referred to.

Monday, August 26th.

The Dublin Hospital Board Bill, and The Movable Dwellings Bill were withdrawn.

OBITUARY.

THOMAS KING CHAMBERS, M.D. OXON., F.R.C.P.

By the death of Dr. King Chambers, to which we briefly referred last week, English medicine loses one of its most scholarly and cultured representatives. Life-long illness prevented him from taking the position in the medical world of London to which his scientific attainments and practical ability entitled him, but he was none the less a man universally esteemed by his professional brethren, and he exercised considerable influence within a certain sphere.

Dr. King Chambers, who was related to Dr. Chambers, Physician to William IV and Queen Adelaide, was educated at Rugby under Dr. Arnold, and Shrewsbury, from which he passed to Christ Church, Oxford, where in due course he took his degree with honours. He afterwards studied medicine at St. George's Hospital and in Paris, and received the degree of M.D. from his Alma Mater in 1846.

In 1848 he was elected a Fellow of the College of Physicians, and on the opening of St. Mary's Hospital he was appointed one of its first physicians. He was also Physician to the House of Charity in Soho. In 1859 he travelled with the Prince of Wales in Italy and Spain. Skilful in his profession and accomplished in many directions outside it, a man of well-stored mind, polished manners, and refined tastes, who added to his scientific, literary, and artistic attainments the practical culture that is only gained by having, like the wise Ulysses, seen many men and many cities, Dr. Chambers seemed to have the brightest prospects of professional success before him. Ill-health, however, prevented him from winning his way, as he seemed so eminently qualified to do, to a place among the *summa cacumina* of medicine, and he had to resign himself to a less brilliant, though far from inglorious, career.

Dr. Chambers was the subject of a well-marked tendency to aneurysm. This first showed itself in the left popliteal artery, when it was supposed to be connected with an injury to the knee received at football many years before when he was at Rugby. Amputation was performed, and Dr. Chambers was able to resume professional work till eleven years ago, when a second aneurysm became developed in the right leg. This was cured by pressure, but Dr. Chambers thenceforth retired from practice, and lived quietly in the country at Sunningdale, near Ascot, from which he came up to London from time to time to discharge his duties as Physician to the Hand-in-Hand Insurance Office and as member of the General Medical Council.

Though living outside the turmoil of active professional work, Dr. Chambers continued to take a keen interest in the progress of medical science, and in everything relating to the welfare and advancement of the medical profession. He served several times as examiner, both in his own University of Oxford and at Durham, and he was unfailing in his attendance at the meetings of the General Medical Council, till he became physically incapacitated for the journey. Dr. Chambers was a member of our medical Parliament from 1882 till his death, and his place in that body will be most difficult to fill. He took the greatest interest in its work, and no opinion was ever listened to with more respect, or more highly valued by his colleagues than his.

Dr. Chambers was one of the steadiest supporters of the movement for admitting women to the medical profession from its beginning, and up to the last he took a warm interest in the Henrietta Street School of Medicine for Women.

Nine months ago both carotid arteries became the seat of aneurysms, and the case was complicated by severe cardiac disease. His sufferings were intense and almost incessant, but no word of complaint or impatience passed his lips. To use his own words, he "wrestled with himself and would not give in." He was conscious to the end. He died on Thursday, August 15th, and was buried in Sunningdale Church. During his first illness he was attended with loving care by Sir James Paget and Mr. Caesar Hawkins; on the second occasion by Mr. T. Smith, with the help of Sir William Gull and Sir Henry Acland. In his last illness Dr. Acland and Dr. Lowndes, of Egham, were his medical attendants, and added to their professional ministrations the sympathy and unceasing care of devoted friends.

Dr. Chambers was remarkable as much for the mingled strength and gentleness of his character as for his intellectual gifts. He never allowed his mind to dwell on the pain from which he suffered almost without intermission for the greater part of his life, but busied himself in literary work, and in designing, drawing, and carving, in all of which arts he was no mean proficient. In his last illness he constantly regretted not having finished more, and often said: "I cannot wish to live if I am unable to work."

Dr. Chambers was the author of several medical works, most of which passed through more than one edition. That by which he was most generally known to the public is his *Manual of Diet and Regimen in Health and Disease*, a second edition of which was published in 1876. This valuable and interesting work owes its popularity not less to the soundness of its teaching in all that pertains to the science and art of alimentation than to the exquisite charm of its literary style.

Dr. Chambers leaves a widow and two daughters, one of whom is married to Mr. Oulless, the Royal Academician.

POLICE AMBULANCE CLASSES.—Mr. W. A. Tyssen Amherst, M.P., recently presented certificates on behalf of the St. John Ambulance Association to 146 police officers, in the theatre of the Royal United Institution.

MEDICAL NEWS.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.—The following gentlemen, having passed the Qualifying Examination in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, have received Certificates entitling them to practise in the same, and have been admitted as Licentiates of the Society in August, 1889:

On August 16th:

Greenwood, Samuel, Queen's College, Birmingham.
Jessop, Arthur Rowland, Guy's Hospital.
Rees, Edward Davies, King's College.

On August 21st:

Bate, John, London Hospital.
Blewitt, Patrick Lyons, Dublin
Buee, Kenneth Frederick Tooke, University College.
Case, William, King's College.

On August 22nd:

Hlott, Arthur Talman, Charing Cross Hospital.
Walton, John Stamford, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

The following Vacancies are announced:

BOROUGH HOSPITAL, Birkenhead.—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Application by September 2nd to the Chairman of the Weekly Board.

CANCER HOSPITAL, Fulham Road, S.W.—Two Resident House-Surgeons. Appointment for six months. Honorarium at the rate of £50 per annum, with board and residence. Applications by August 31st to the Secretary.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, washing, and attendance. Applications by September 3rd to the Secretary, Children's Hospital, Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham.—Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £40 per annum, with board, washing, and attendance. Applications by September 3rd to the Secretary, Children's Hospital, Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham.

CITY OF LONDON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Victoria Park, E.—House-Physician. Board and residence. Applications by September 20th to the Secretary, 24, Finsbury Circus, E.C.

COUNTY ASYLUM, Shrewsbury.—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, etc. Applications by September 11th to the Medical Superintendent.

COUNTY INFIRMARY, Monaghan.—Assistant-Surgeon; also to act as Apothecary and Registrar. Salary, £60 per annum, with apartments, light, coal, and rations. Applications to the Registrar. Election on September 11th.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, Birmingham.—Resident Surgical Officer. Salary, £130 per annum, with board and lodging, etc. Applications by September 2nd to Dr. Coghill, House-Governor.

GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY AND ST. MUNGO'S COLLEGE.—Curator of the Museum and Pathologist. Salary, £50 per annum. Applications by September 20th to Mr. Henry Lamond, 93, West Regent Street, Glasgow.

MACCLESFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Senior House-Surgeon. Salary, £100. Applications by September 14th to the Chairman House Committee, Macclesfield Infirmary.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Honorary Assistant-Surgeon. Applications by September 21st to the Chairman of the Board.

NORTH LONDON CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL, Hampstead.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £40 per annum, with board, apartments, etc. Applications by September 10th to the Secretary, 216, Tottenham Court Road, N.W.

ROTHERHAM HOSPITAL.—Assistant House-Surgeon. Board and lodging. Applications by September 2nd to the House-Surgeon.

ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL, Devonport.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £150 per annum, with board and lodging. Applications by September 12th to the Chairman of the Election Committee.

STAMFORD, RUTLAND, AND GENERAL INFIRMARY.—House-Surgeon and Secretary. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by September 9th to the Chairman of the Special Committee.

SWANSEA HOSPITAL.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with board and lodging, etc. Applications by September 7th to the Secretary, 9, Castle Street, Swansea.

WALLASEY DISPENSARY.—House-Surgeon. Salary, £110, with furnished apartments, etc. Applications by September 3rd to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. W. Heap, Elm Mount, Penkett Road, Liscard, Cheshire.

WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL HOSPITAL, Wolverhampton.—House-Physician. Salary, £100 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications by September 5th to the Chairman of the Medical Committee.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

ABBOTT, F. C., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident House-Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital.

ANDERSON, G. R., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed Resident Accoucheur to St. Thomas's Hospital.

ANSON, G. E., M.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., appointed Assistant House-Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital.